

Message Text

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TAGS: OGEN VE

FOLLOWING ARE PROPOSED ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE STATEMENTS.

DEPT MAY WISH TO INTERSPERSE SUBSTANTIVE SENTENCES AND
STIR SLOWLY. TOAST TO FOLLOW.

ARRIVAL STATEMENT BEGIN TEXT:

IT IS A DISTINCT PLEASURE FOR ME TO BE HERE IN VENEZUELA, THE
NATION THAT GAVE FREEDOM AND HOPE TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS
CONTINENT THROUGH THE GALLANT AND HEROIC LEADERSHIP OF ITS
MOST ILLUSTRIOUS SON, SIMON BOLIVAR.

IN THE UNITED STATES, WE ASSOCIATE THE NAME OF THE GREAT
LIBERATOR WITH THE JUST STRUGGLES OF MAN EVERYWHERE. HE IS,
FOR US, THE GEORGE WASHINGTON OF SOUTH AMERICA.

OUR TWO NATIONS HAVE MUCH IN COMMON, NOT ONLY IN THE SHAPE OF
OUR HEROES, BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, IN WHAT THEY REPRESENT FOR
MANKIND: FREEDOM, DIGNITY AND EQUALITY UNDER LAW.

THE STRONG HISTORICAL TIES OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN
VENEZUELA AND THE US REFLECT THE COMMONALITY OF
INTERESTS OF OUR PEOPLE AND THE MUTUAL ESTEEM IN WHICH WE HOLD
DEMOCRACY.

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ALTHOUGH TODAY WE FACE SOME ISSUES OVER WHICH WE MAY DISAGREE,

SUCH AS THE US FOREIGN TRADE ACT, I AM CONFIDENT
THAT WE, THROUGH PATIENCE AND MUTUAL TRUST, CAN WORK TOGETHER AS
SOVEREIGN, FREE NATIONS TO RESOLVE THESE DIFFERENCES.

AS YOU KNOW, I HAVE JUST VISITED (FOUR) COUNTRIES OF SOUTH
AMERICA WHERE I HAD USEFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH
THE LEADERS OF THESE GREAT NATIONS. I NOW LOOK FORWARD TO
TALKS WITH YOUR ESTEEMED PRESIDENT, CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ AND THE
OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE THE CORDIAL AND FRUITFUL CONVERSATIONS
I HAD RECENTLY IN WASHINGTON WITH YOUR DISTINGUISHED FOREIGN
MINISTER, RAMON ESCOBAR SALOM AND YOUR MINISTER OF STATE FOR
INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, MANUEL PERZ GUERRERO.

I FULLY SUBSCRIBE TO THE VIEW SO ELOQUENTLY ENUNCIATED LAST
MONTH BY PRESIDENT PEREZ " THAT WE MUST CREATE A WORLD OF
COOPERATION AND AVOID THE DANGEROUS CONFRONTATIONS THAT ARISE
FROM A WORLD HOBBLLED BY INJUSTICE AND CONTRADICTIONS."
IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT THAT I COME HERE TODAY.

END TEXT.

DEPARTURE STATEMENT BEGIN TEXT:

I WANT TO THANK YOU, YOUR EXCELLENCY, FOR THE VERY COURTEOUS
AND WARM RECEPTION GIVEN TO ME AND MY STAFF BY THE GOVT
AND PEOPLE OF VENEZUELA DURING OUR BRIEF VISIT TO YOUR BEAUTIFUL
COUNTRY. I AM FULLY MINDFUL OF THE SPECIAL EFFORTS UNDERTAKN
ON OUR BEHALF TO MAKE US FEEL, AS YOU SO FINELY SAY IN SPANISH,
ESTAN EN SU CASA. I APPRECIATE THE VERY FRANK AND CORDIAL
CONVERSATIONS I HAD WITH YOU AND PRESIDENT PEREZ AS WELL AS
WITH OTHER REPRESENTATIVES OF YOUR GOVT. I BELIEVE THAT
THE INTER-CHANGE OF IDEAS AND POINTS OF VIEW EXPRESSED
THROUGHOUT OUR MEETINGS CLEARLY SYMBOLIZE THE MATURITY OF OUR
TWO COUNTRIES AND THE MUTUAL RESPECT WHICH CHARACTERIZES OUR
HISTORIC RELATIONS.

I LOOK FORWARD TO THE CONTINUATION OF OUR DIALOGUE NEXT
MONTH AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING OF THE OAS IN WASHINGTON
AND HOPE THAT WE MAY SOON HAVE THE HONOR OF RECEIVING YOUR
PRESIDENT IN THE US.

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END TEXT
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